



Peterborough  
Safeguarding  
Children Board

Annual Report  
2016/17

# Foreword

BY DR RUSSELL WATE QPM, INDEPENDENT CHAIR PETERBOROUGH SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD



It gives me great pleasure to present to you Peterborough's Safeguarding Children Board annual report for the period April 2016 – March 2017. The report outlines both the activity and contribution of the Board and its partners that has taken place during the last year. The year has been as always a very challenging one for all agencies. I would like to thank all of the Board members (in particular the Lay Members) and their organisations, especially the frontline staff, for the hard work they have carried out to keep children and young people safe from harm in Peterborough.

Our overarching objectives through Working Together 2015 are to:

1. *Co-ordinate what is being done by each person or body represented on the board to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in Peterborough and*
2. *Ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for those purposes.*

You will see in the report that we have worked well through our priorities for the year and, as a result of these being correctly identified, we are now continuing with them for another year. Some of these priorities we share with our partner boards, for example the priority of ensuring children and young people receive early help in Peterborough. This is achieved in conjunction with other boards working in Peterborough and evidences clear joint agency working arrangements in Peterborough.

We published this year (June 2016) the Serious Case Review (SCR) that looked at learning from the investigation (Operation Erle) in the city into child sexual exploitation. We must pay tribute to the victims and the frontline staff that helped us to capture this learning. The Board and its partners received national recognition for this work.

The Children and Social Work Act 2017 has meant that we have to think how we do things differently when Safeguarding boards, in about two years, change to be called multi-agency partnerships. I am pleased to say that the board and its partners are already putting plans in place for these changes, for example working a lot closer with our colleagues in Cambridgeshire.

In the last year a lot of activity was focussed on a refresh of our threshold strategy and also producing and implementing a partnership neglect strategy. Our challenge now is to make sure these are embedded in our frontline practitioners' daily work.

We, as a Board, feel the next year is an exciting one for us with lots of opportunities for the partnership to continue our work and to move to be a very good, if not outstanding, Safeguarding Board.

Finally I would like to thank Jo Procter and all of her team for their unstinting commitment to the work of the Board and keeping children in the City safe.



Dr Russell Wate QPM

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## Glossary of Terms

<b>CAFCASS</b>	Children & Family Court Advisory & Support Service	<b>NSPCC</b>	National Society for the Prevention of cruelty to children
<b>CAMHS</b>	Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service	<b>PACE</b>	Parents against child exploitation
<b>CCG</b>	Clinical Commissioning Group	<b>PASP</b>	Peterborough Access to Support Panel
<b>CHISVA</b>	Children and Young People's Sexual Violence Advocate	<b>PWA</b>	Peterborough Women's Aid
<b>CDOP</b>	Child Death Overview Panel	<b>PSCB</b>	Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board
<b>CP</b>	Child Protection	<b>QEG</b>	Quality and Effectiveness Group
<b>CPFT</b>	Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Foundation Trust	<b>RAG</b>	Red, Amber, Green
<b>CPIN</b>	Child Protection Information Network (Education)	<b>SAB</b>	Safeguarding Adults Board
<b>CQC</b>	Care Quality Commission	<b>SASP</b>	Specialist Abuse Services - Peterborough
<b>CSE</b>	Child Sexual Exploitation	<b>SCR</b>	Serious Case Review
<b>CSM</b>	Complex Strategy Meeting	<b>TAC</b>	Team Around the Child
<b>DfE</b>	Department for Education	<b>ABH</b>	Actual Bodily Harm
<b>EHA</b>	Early Help Assessment	<b>BME</b>	Black Minority Ethnic
<b>GP</b>	General Practitioner	<b>CSC</b>	Children Social Care
<b>HMP</b>	Her Majesty's Prison	<b>ICPC</b>	Initial Child Protection Conference
<b>HWB</b>	Health and Wellbeing Board	<b>RCPC</b>	Review Child Protection Conference
<b>JASP</b>	Joint Access to Support Panel	<b>DBS</b>	Disclosure and Barring Service
<b>LADO</b>	Local Authority Designated Officer	<b>FGM</b>	Female Genital Mutilation
<b>LSCB</b>	Local Safeguarding Children Board	<b>FRT</b>	First Response Team
<b>LAC</b>	Looked After Child	<b>IRO</b>	Independent Reviewing Officer
<b>MAPP</b>	Multi-Agency Public Protection Board	<b>MAPPA</b>	Multi-agency Public Protection Arrangements
<b>MARAC</b>	Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference	<b>MASE</b>	Multi-agency Sexual Exploitation
<b>MASG</b>	Multi-Agency Support Group	<b>OFSTED</b>	Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills
<b>MASH</b>	Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub	<b>PSHE</b>	Personal, Social and Health Education
<b>NHS</b>	National Health Service	<b>UASC</b>	Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children



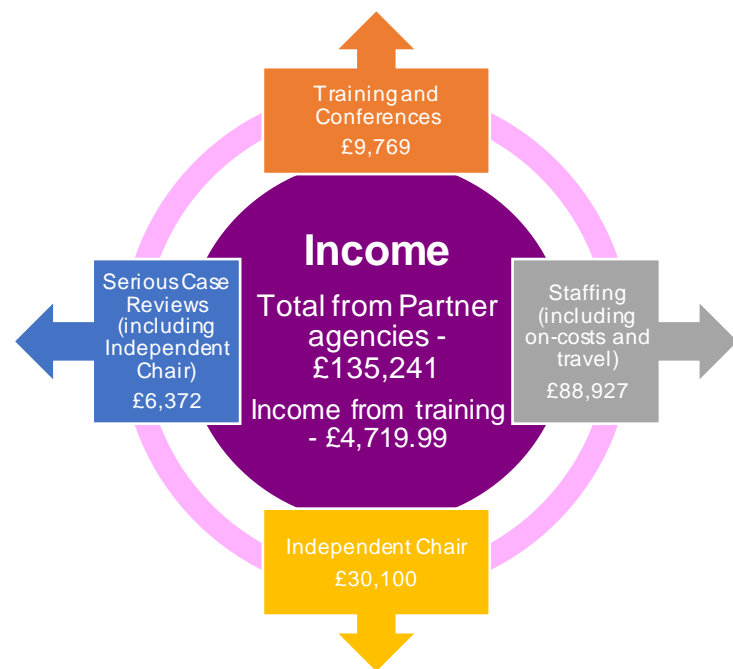
## The Board

The Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board (PSCB) is the statutory body that oversees the multi-agency child safeguarding arrangements across the City of Peterborough as set out in statutory guidance **Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015**<sup>1</sup> and the **Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) Regulations 2006**<sup>2</sup>, the PSCB is composed of senior representatives nominated by each of its member agencies and professional groups. It has two basic objectives defined within the Children Act 2004;

- to co-ordinate what is done by each person or body represented on the board to safeguard and promote the welfare of children
- to ensure the effectiveness of what is done for those purposes.

## Financial Arrangements

Partner agencies have continued to provide financial contribution towards the PSCB's budget for 2016/17. Agency contributions totalled £135,241.00, with an additional £36,919 from Peterborough City Council paid directly to Serco PLC for Business Support Services. This income ensured that the overall cost of running the PSCB were met in 2016-17.



## Key Roles and Relationships

Dr Russell Wate QPM has been the Independent Chair of the PSCB since 2013. He is tasked with leading the Board and ensuring it fulfils its statutory objectives and functions.

The Chair is accountable to the **Chief Executive of Peterborough City Council** and they met frequently during 2016/17. **The Corporate Director of People and Communities** for the City also continued to work closely with the Chair on related safeguarding challenges.

**The Lead Member for Children's Services** in Peterborough is a "participating observer" of the PSCB; engaging in discussions but not part of the decision making process which provides the Lead Member with the independence to challenge the Local Authority when necessary.

<sup>1</sup> Working Together to Safeguard Children (2015)  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2>

<sup>2</sup> Local Safeguarding Children Board Regulations 2006  
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2006/90/regulation/5/made>

## Designated Professionals

The Designated Doctor and Nurse take a strategic and professional lead on all aspects of the health service contribution to safeguarding children. Designated professionals are a vital source of professional advice. Across the range of PSCB activities, these designated roles have continued to demonstrate their value during 2016/17.

## The PSCB Business Unit




















The Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board Business Unit supports both the Adult and Children's Safeguarding Boards and is made up of the following members of staff;

- Head of Service
- Exploitation Coordinator
- Safeguarding Board Officers – Children's Lead
- Safeguarding Board Officer – Adult's Lead

- Safeguarding Board Coordinator (Communication and E-safety Lead)
- Business Support Officer - Full-time
- Business Support Officer - Part-time

## Board Membership & Attendance

The Board met six times during 2016/17 with good attendance from both statutory and non-statutory partners. Each member of the Board is responsible for ensuring a two-way communication between their agency and the Board by disseminating information between the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board and their agency/professional body. They are also responsible for identifying any appropriate actions and highlight any issues with partners that have been identified by their agency which will lead to challenge by the Board.

	Attendance	Number of seats per organisation
Independent Chair	100%	
Peterborough City Council (Including Youth Offending Service)	100%	
Cambridgeshire Constabulary	100%	
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group (including Designated Doctor and Designated Nurse)	100%	
Peterborough and Stamford Hospital Foundation Trust	100%	
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Foundation Trust	83%	
Cambridgeshire Community Services	67%	
East of England Ambulance Service	83%	
Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire Community Rehabilitation Company	100%	
National Probation Service	83%	
CAFCASS	83%	
Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue	50%	
Healthwatch	83%	
NSPCC	50%	
Primary School Representative	83%	
Secondary School Representative	50%	
Further Education	83%	
Lay Member	100%	
Lead Member for Children Services	83%	

## Relationship with other Boards

For the Board to be influential in coordinating and ensuring the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements, it is important that it has strong links with other groups and boards who impact on child services. An Inter Board Protocol has been developed and implemented in the last year to formalise the governance and reporting arrangements between the statutory boards. The Board also has an integral role in being part of the planning and commissioning of services delivered to children in Peterborough.

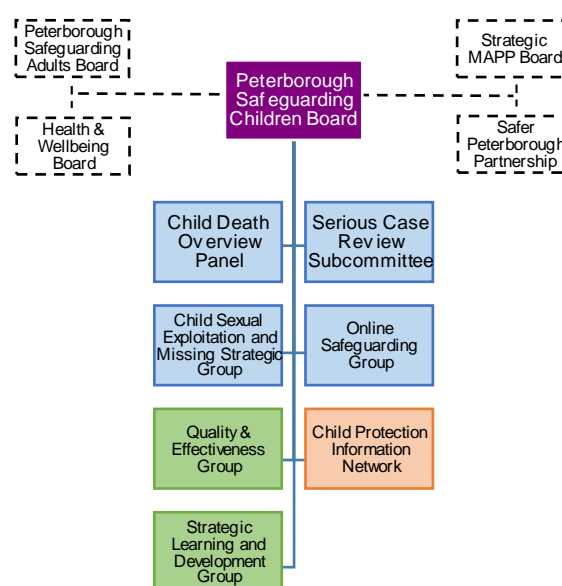
The Independent Chair of the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board is also the Chair of Peterborough Safeguarding Adults Board, Cambridgeshire Safeguarding Children Board and Cambridgeshire Safeguarding Adults Board which provides consistency of services for children and adults across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. He is also a member of other strategic and statutory partnerships within Peterborough which include the Health and Wellbeing Board, the Safer Peterborough Partnership and the Strategic MAPP Board. Key members of the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board also sit on the Safer Peterborough Partnership and Domestic Abuse Governance Board. In addition, the Head of Service is a member of the Domestic Abuse Governance Board and the Children and Families Joint Commissioning Board.

These links mean that safeguarding children remains on the agenda of these groups and is a continuing consideration for all members, widening the influence of the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board across all services and activities in Peterborough.

There are strong historical links between Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and a number of partner agencies deliver services across the two areas and are members of both LSCB's. To ensure consistency and efficiency for all partner agencies, where possible, both Boards have sought to co-work across the two authorities. The

primary purpose has been to reduce duplication of work, ensure consistent expectations are placed on partner agencies and increase the efficiency of meetings. As a result of the co-working arrangements, there has been some savings in LSCB resources which has allowed other work to be progressed.

For some years there has been a significant level of cooperation across the two Boards in relation to training. The Boards work to the same validation process and deliver a number of joint training courses across the County.



## Sub-Group Structure

Each sub-group has its own terms of reference and reporting expectations. They are chaired by an agency representative and supported by the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board Business Unit.

## Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)

The primary function of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) is to review all child deaths in the area. It does this through two inter related multi-agency processes; a paper based review of all deaths of children under the age of 18 years by the CDOP and a rapid response service, led jointly by health and police personnel, which looks in greater detail at the deaths of all children who die unexpectedly.

This is a statutory process, the requirements of which are set out in chapter 5 of 'Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015'. The CDOP is chaired by the Independent Chair of the LSCB and the CDOP Annual Report for 2016/17 can be found on the PSCB website. The information in the summary below relates **only to Peterborough children**.

### Numbers of child deaths reported and reviewed

During the period of this report, 24 children's deaths were reported in Peterborough, which is six deaths more than the previous year. Of those children who died, 58% were less than a year old, the majority of whom never left hospital.

### Modifiable Factors

It is the purpose of the Child Death Overview Panel to identify any 'modifiable' factors for each death, that is, any factor which, with hindsight, might have prevented that death and might prevent future deaths.

There were two sudden and unexpected deaths in Peterborough where a modifiable factor was identified.

### The Serious Case Review Group

The overall purpose of the group is to consider cases and determine whether a Serious Case Review should be undertaken and ensure that key learning is effectively disseminated. Serious Case Reviews are undertaken where:

a) abuse or neglect of a child is known or

suspected; and

b) either –

- i. the child has died; or
- ii. the child has been seriously harmed and there is cause for concern to the way in which the authority, their Board partners or relevant persons have worked together to safeguard the child.

In line with Working Together to Safeguard Children (2015), all reviews of cases meeting the SCR criteria should result in a report which is published and readily accessible on the LSCB's website for a minimum of 12 months. Thereafter, the report should be made available on request. This is important to support national sharing of lessons learnt and good practice in writing and publishing SCRs.

The Serious Case Review Sub-Group is held bimonthly with six meetings being held. The group has finalised and published one Serious Case Review into CSE, considered one case which did not meet the criteria for an SCR, undertook two agency de-briefs and commenced one serious case review into child sexual abuse.

### Summary of Published Serious Case Reviews in 2016/17

#### An Overview of CSE in Peterborough – published June 2016

The serious case review focused on the learning from Operation Erle which was the operational name of a multi-agency partnership investigation into child sexual exploitation in the City which spanned 2013 to 2015.

Operation Erle has received national recognition as a model of good practice for identifying and investigating child sexual exploitation.

Undoubtedly, there has been significant progress in understanding and analysing active and potential cases of child sexual exploitation by Cambridgeshire Constabulary, Children's Social Care, Health, Education and several agencies across the voluntary sector. This progress has



primarily been achieved through the relentless commitment of a spectrum of dedicated professional staff.

The report outlines the lessons learnt specifically from Operation Erle and details each agency's response to the issue of child sexual exploitation since then, including the CSE Co-ordinator role, CSE leads in all secondary schools, a specific Police team to tackle CSE aligned with the Missing Persons Investigation Unit, Independent Return Interviews being offered by Barnardos and the embedding of NICE guidance on transitions across the health economy.

### **Quality and Effectiveness Group**

The aim of the Quality and Effectiveness Group (QEG) is to monitor the individual and collective effectiveness of the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board members as they carry out their duties to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in Peterborough. The group also advises and supports the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board in achieving the highest standards in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in Peterborough by evaluation and continuous improvement. Five meetings of the group were held in the timeframe covered by this report.

The PSCB has a strong quality assurance function and regularly undertakes quality assurance activity. This includes a range of activity including audits, focus groups and surveys.

The Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board has developed and implemented an annual themed audit programme which includes both single and multi-agency audits. All multi-agency audits are linked to the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board Business Priorities.

During the 12 months covered by this report, the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board has undertaken 10 multi-agency audits/ dip samples. These focussed on a range of subjects. Areas of practice that have been reviewed include

Thresholds, Domestic Abuse, CSE contacts, cse risk management tools, return interviews and elective home education. All of the audits have resulted in action plans and learning for practice.

In addition to the audits the QEG had developed a multi agency performance data set. This is based on the PSCB priorities and provides the Board with a further process to scrutinise practice. In the last 12 months the Board has worked closely with public health to strengthen the PSCB dataset to include information about neglect (including low birth weight, immunisations, obesity, and repeat accidental injuries). Whilst this data is in place work is taking place to further refine the data and make it more meaningful.

### **Training Sub-Group**

The Strategic Learning and Development Group has continued to ensure that the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board Training Strategy has been effectively implemented. The aim of the strategy is for all workers in Peterborough in contact with children/young people and/or their parents and carers to receive appropriate and relevant training in safeguarding children.

The group was also responsible for agreeing effective quality assurance processes in order to ensure that the safeguarding children training provided by all member agencies meets agreed standards. It made changes in the light of any identified gaps in training or resulting from national and local findings of serious case reviews/case reviews, research, new or revised legislation and guidance.

The work undertaken by the Training Group during 2016/17 included:

- Oversight of the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board Multi-agency Workforce Development Programme of which 867 professionals from across the city attended.
- Developing training and a resource pack to support practitioners with the launch of the revised threshold document and neglect strategy

- Updates to the CSE Resource Pack and FGM Resource Pack. The aim of these resources is to aid agencies in delivering single agency briefings to ensure basic awareness raising is delivered in as many agencies as possible.
- Organising and delivering a conference on Adolescents and risk taking behaviour, jointly with Cambridgeshire LSCB colleagues.
- Considering the impact of training delivered by the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board: details can also be found later in this report.
- Validation of single agency safeguarding training.

The work of the group continues to be informed by the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board business priorities and in response to learning arising from serious case reviews and other national and local concerns.

### Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Child Sexual Exploitation Group



Ensuring that children and young people are fully protected from CSE has, once again, remained a business priority for the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board and activity and awareness raising has continued throughout this period.

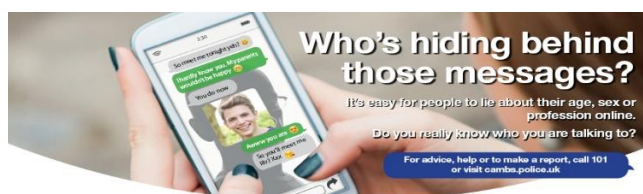
- In August 2015 the Joint CSE Risk Management Tool was launched for all agencies across the county with guidance on the intended function of the tool. In the past 12 months dip samples have been undertaken to ensure that the risk management tool have been properly embedded.
- Work under the communication strategy

continues and is a continuing agenda item for discussion at each meeting of the group.

- Leaflets for businesses on their duties to safeguard children and young people from sexual exploitation have been updated and translated into 7 additional languages.
- Leaflets for parents and carers providing advice on what to do when their child goes missing was created in collaboration with Cambridgeshire Constabulary and Cambridgeshire LSCB and translated into various languages and is available from our website.
- An updated CSE Strategy which reconfigured the membership of the Strategic Group was approved by both Peterborough and Cambridgeshire Boards.

More information can be found under the Board's priority "Children are fully protected from Child Sexual Exploitation" later in this report.

### Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Online Safeguarding Group



The joint Cambridgeshire and Peterborough LSCB Online Safeguarding Group continues to be a focus for the Board.

Over the last year, the group has

- reviewed the section 11 returns regarding E-safety,
- revised the E-safety incident flowchart,
- developed leaflets and resources for both professionals and the public
- undertook a survey regarding E-safety training within agencies
- participated in a police led awareness campaign around online safety
- started updating the e-safety strategy.

In addition to the above the PSCB developed and launched an online safety survey aimed at seven to sixteen year olds. This took place between November 2016 and March 2017. The Board received over 2000 responses to the survey from children and young people across the City. This provided the Board with extensive insight into what young people across Peterborough are doing “on line”. The findings from the survey will form the basis for the ongoing work of the sub group. Further details relating to the survey can be found in the “voice of the child” section of the report.

### **Child Protection Information Network (CPIN)**

The Child Protection Information Network is an education sub group of the Board. Meetings are held on a termly basis and members of the education community are invited to attend.

Attendance remained good, with representation from sectors from Early Years through to Further Education. The group appreciates continued support from both the PSCB and from police (Safer Schools). Sgt Susie Tinsley has kept the group up to date on all relevant police matters, including issues around Prevent.

Information updates have ensured safeguarding leads are aware of the latest statutory guidance, and of any local and national resources to support their role and to protect children in their care. Changes to the statutory guidance *Keeping Children Safe in Education* have seen a substantial shift towards information to be shared with the wider workforce.

Presentations by senior staff from CSC and from Early Help provided a deeper understanding of the MASH and expectations of the Early Help process. A presentation on the impact of domestic abuse on children and young people was extremely helpful and some of the examples shared have been incorporated into training sessions to extend awareness. The Youth Offending Service presented on harmful

sexualised behaviour. Again, attendees found this extremely interesting and beneficial, both in terms of their own understanding of the subject matter and of pathways to support.

The increased involvement of education professionals in strategy meetings is identified as a positive move and welcomed by the Safeguarding Leads.

## Safeguarding in Peterborough 2016/17 Snapshot



Approximately **52000** children live in the city

**27%** of the total population of the City

**153** languages are spoken in schools

**23.1%** of children are living in poverty

**1195** Total number of Violent or sexual offences against under 18s

**10261** Total number of contacts to Children's Social Care for April 2016 - March 2017

**2013** contacts to Children's Social Care with the reason of domestic abuse/DV

**1976** Total number of Domestic Abuse incidents where children were present

**133** Total number of Repeat Domestic Abuse incidents where children were present

**449** Cases / **147** repeat cases discussed at MARAC

**2188** contacts and referrals to Children's Social Care with an outcome of Early Help

**1842** Total number of Early Help Assessments completed during the year

**2513** Total Number of single assessments completed

**1188** Number of open Children in Need cases (as of March 2017)

**236** Number of children on a CP Plan (as of March 2017)

**363** Number of looked after children (as of March 2017)

**173** Madrassa and Supplementary Schools members have been trained in Safeguarding Children and Young People

**417** Children reported missing from Home or Care

**110** Children and young people missing from Home or Care for two days or more

**40** Children identified as being at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation

**208** Allegations against staff who work or volunteer with Children and young people

**6** Children Privately Fostered

## Local Context

Peterborough is noted in the 2017 Centre for Cities report 'Cities Outlook 2017' to be the fourth-fastest growing city in the UK, behind only Exeter, Coventry and Cambridge City<sup>3</sup>.

Population density is highest in Peterborough among the urban, relatively deprived areas towards the centre of the Local Authority, although Peterborough also has some rural areas towards its outer boundaries, which tend to be more sparsely populated and less deprived.

Approximately 52,000 children and young people under the age of 19 live in Peterborough, which is 27% of the total population in the area. There are year-on-year increases in the numbers of children and young people attending Peterborough schools; the number of pupils increased by 4% between October 2013 and October 2014.

Peterborough has an increasingly diverse population where 153 languages are spoken in Peterborough schools. There is a growing number of children and families moving to the city from Central and Eastern Europe.

School children and young people from minority ethnic groups account for 44.8% of all children living in the area, compared with 28.9% in the country as a whole. The largest minority ethnic group of pupils is still Asian Pakistani, reflecting earlier patterns of migration. However, this group as a proportion of the school population is now relatively stable, whilst the population of Polish and Lithuanian children in Peterborough schools increased by 19% and 13% respectively between October 2013 and October 2014.

37% of children and young people in primary schools and 28% in secondary schools have English as an additional language compared with the national averages of 19% and 14% respectively.

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.centreforcities.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Cities-Outlook-2017-Web.pdf>

### The child population in this area

	Local	Region	England
Live births (2015)	3,170	72,505	664,399
Children aged 0 to 4 years (2015)	15,900 8.2%	378,300 6.2%	3,434,700 6.3%
Children aged 0 to 19 years (2015)	52,100 26.9%	1,437,000 23.6%	13,005,700 23.7%
Children aged 0 to 19 years in 2025 (projected)	57,600 27.2%	1,572,100 23.8%	14,002,600 23.8%
School children from minority ethnic groups (2016)	14,372 46.4%	178,543 23.3%	2,032,064 30.0%
Children living in poverty aged under 16 years (2014)	23.1%	16.5%	20.1%
Life expectancy at birth (2013-2015)	Boys 78.6 Girls 82.4	80.3 83.7	79.5 83.1

Source: Public Health England Child Profiles 2017

This rapidly increasing and changing population is likely to place additional pressures on services over the coming years. An increasing population of children implies that, all things being equal, there will be increasing numbers of children who are in need, including those who are in need of protection and/or looking after. The Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board will need to ensure that it has an awareness of safeguarding issues in all sectors of Peterborough's communities. This in itself will be a challenge for the Board.

### Child and Family Poverty in Peterborough

Peterborough remains a local authority with relatively high levels of deprivation, as measured by the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI), which forms part of the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD).

Deprivation affecting children, as measured by IDACI, fell slightly between 2010 and 2015, with Peterborough's IDACI score falling from 0.27 to 0.25, reflecting a reduction in children living in poverty of approximately 2%.

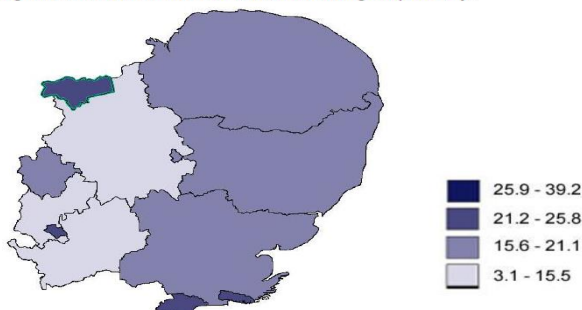
Among Peterborough's CIPFA (Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy) comparator group of 15 socio-economic neighbours, Peterborough has moved from being the fifth-most deprived local authority to the fourth-most deprived.

Levels of deprivation are particularly high in areas near the centre of Peterborough and there is a higher concentration of relatively deprived areas towards the south of the geographical area that comprises Peterborough. Deprivation, as measured by the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index, is markedly less prevalent in Peterborough's more affluent, rural wards.

The health and wellbeing of children in Peterborough is generally worse than the England average. The Public Health England Child Health Profile<sup>4</sup> provides the following key findings relating to the health of children in the City. Poverty is evidenced to be a key factor in health outcomes.

#### Children living in poverty

Map of the East of England, with Peterborough outlined, showing the relative levels of children living in poverty.



The overarching Child Poverty measure found within the Child Health Profile indicates that the percentage of children living in poverty in Peterborough was 23.1% in 2014, higher than the national average of 20.1%. Peterborough also has lower life expectancy at birth than England for both boys (78.6 years compared to 79.5 years) and girls (82.4 years compared to 83.1 years) for the period 2013-15. The rate of family homelessness in Peterborough is also worse than the England average.

#### Children in Low Income Families (Under 16s), East of England Region, 2014<sup>5</sup>

<sup>4</sup> Child Health Profile – March 2017  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/2017-child-health-profiles>

Area	Count	Value
England	2,003,060	20.1
East of England region	181,560	16.5
Luton	12,215	24.5
Peterborough	10,360	23.1
Southend-on-Sea	7,315	22.1
Thurrock	7,600	21.2
Bedford	6,015	18.4
Norfolk	25,510	17.9
Essex	42,365	16.4
Suffolk	19,995	16.0
Hertfordshire	29,335	13.3
Central Bedfordshire	6,695	13.3
Cambridgeshire	14,155	12.9

## The Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board Business Priorities - 2016/17

Partner agencies were in agreement that the business priorities from 2015/16 remained relevant and, as they were based upon the views of agencies and children and young people, it was decided that they remain the same for 2016/17. These were:

1. Early help and preventative measures are effective.
2. Children at risk of significant harm are effectively identified and protected.
3. Everyone makes a significant and meaningful contribution to safeguarding children.
4. Workforce has the right skills/knowledge and capacity to safeguard children.
5. Understand the needs of all sectors of our community.
6. Children are fully protected from the effects of domestic abuse (domestic violence) and neglect.
7. Children are fully protected from child sexual exploitation.

<sup>5</sup> Source: [HM Revenue & Customs, Personal Tax Credits, Related Statistics – Child Poverty Statistics](#).

It is the aim of the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board that these priorities will primarily be achieved and monitored by undertaking the following:

- Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of safeguarding activities by partner agencies individually and collectively and advising and supporting them to make improvements.
- Undertaking reviews of serious cases and disseminating identified learning to partner agencies.
- Collecting and analysing information about all child deaths across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough to increase the learning opportunities.
- Developing and updating policies and procedures to ensure consistency and transparency between partner agencies.
- Communicating the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children amongst professionals, parents and carers and children and young people, raising awareness of how this can best be done and encouraging it to happen.
- Publishing an Annual Report on the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements for services for children in Peterborough.

### Early help and preventative measures are effective

*Some families need help – this may be help in relation to housing, how to parent, behaviour/ anger management, how to budget and attendance at school. By helping these families it is hoped that the situation will improve and the family/ children will not need to have intervention by children’s social care.*

### Thresholds

Working Together 2015 states:

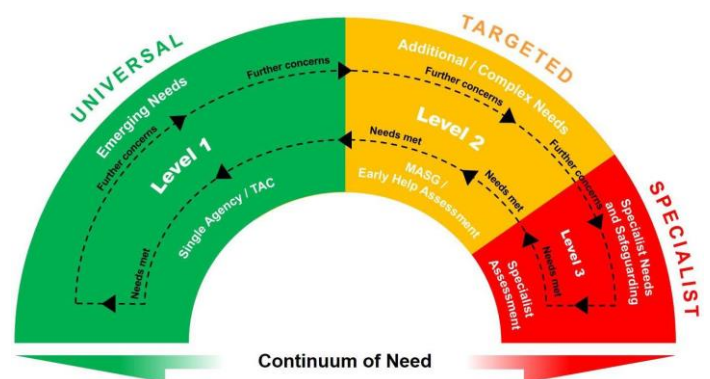
The LSCB should publish a threshold document that includes:

- the process for the early help assessment and the type and level of early help services to be provided;

- the criteria, including the level of need, for when a case should be referred to local authority children’s social care for assessment and for statutory services
- clear procedures and processes for cases relating to the sexual exploitation of children and young people.

The Peterborough Threshold Document which sets out how Peterborough agencies approaches the task of keeping children and young people safe and protected from harm was updated and published in September 2016.

At its heart is the continuum of need, a model that emphasises that the assessment of a child’s needs, and meeting those needs, is never a static process. Situations change and as a result so does the level of need and risk.



The guidance, which covers the threshold of need and intervention, is a vital tool that underpins the local vision to provide targeted support services at the earliest opportunity right through to specialist and statutory interventions when it is needed. The aim is to promote the welfare and safety of vulnerable children and young people.

It offers a clear framework and a common understanding of thresholds of need for practitioners within all agencies, to help to promote a shared awareness of the different interventions required to effectively support children, young people and their families or carer.

The Document provides information, advice and guidance that equips any practitioner working with children to know when additional services

may be required, including when there is a risk of harm, and how to access those services.

### Early Help

In Peterborough, we believe that Early Help is about ensuring that children and families receive the support they need at the right time. We aim to provide help for children and families when problems start to emerge or when there is a strong likelihood that problems will emerge in the future. This means providing support early in life or early in the identification and development of a problem.

Services in Peterborough also recognise that some families will require additional help at various times of their lives and may need to access targeted services periodically to help rebuild their resilience and capacity to manage. Support is also provided within the arena of Early Help when families have received specialist support and need a reduced level of support to sustain and continue the progress made.

### The Peterborough model

Early Help delivery in Peterborough is based primarily on a commissioning model. There is a small Local Authority Early Help team whose role it is to support practitioners and professionals in the field. The majority of Early Help services are commissioned and delivered by a wide range of partners. The Local Authority Early Help Service currently provides the following functions:

- Strategic direction and oversight of Early Help in Peterborough including access to support
- Development and maintenance of positive working relationships with partner agencies to ensure engagement and accountability
- Direct support to professionals working with families in the arena of Early Help, including supporting professionals to complete good quality Early Help Assessments, engaging professionals in the Peterborough Early Help Process including Team Around the Child meetings, Family Actions Plans and Early Help panels to gain additional support
- Early Help support in the Peterborough MASH

- Strategic and Operational management of three locality based Multi-agency Support Group (MASG) panels
- Direct support to the operational functioning of other Early Help panels (Early Support Pathway; Behaviour Panel)
- Delivery of the National Troubled Families agenda in Peterborough overseen by the Department for Communities and Local Government. Known locally in Peterborough as 'Connecting Families'.
- Strategic and operational management of all Evidenced-Based Parenting Programmes in the City, including the training and development of training providers to support the implementation of the neurodevelopmental pathway
- Maintenance and oversight of the Liquid Logic case management Early Help Module system accessed by all partners
- Monitoring of performance and outcomes, and quality assurance.

### Early Help Assessments

Peterborough promotes the use of the Early Help Assessment (previously known as a CAF) as the tool for recording the family's unmet needs. The document should be a holistic assessment that captures the family's strengths. It should ask what is going really well? What is not going so well and causing some concern or worry? What do the family and those working with them think needs to happen, and what are the next steps to help that happen? The Early Help Assessment is single assessment that is created with the family. It should reflect their views, wishes and feelings and what they want to change. It is shared when appropriate [and where there is consent] with other professionals who are working in a co-ordinated way to support the family.

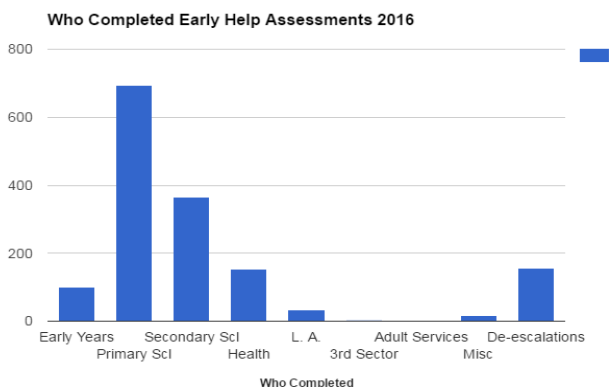
In Peterborough, Early Help Assessments are completed by any professional or partner agency who comes into direct contact with families, and who has identified more than one unmet need that would benefit from a multi-agency support



approach. They are not initiated by members of the Early Help Team. Where professionals working with the family are lacking skills and experience in Early Help and how to complete a holistic assessment, a member of Early Help staff from the LA will work with professionals and partner agencies - often by modelling good practice - to upskill the workforce and ensure good quality assessments are produced. Early Help Assessments are initiated on an electronic case management system known as the Early Help Module as part of our Liquid Logic suite of products. Training is provided for all professionals from the Early Help Team who might need to complete an Early Help Assessment with a family or contribute to one that another professional has started.

### Completion of Early Help Assessments January 2016 to December 2016 inclusive

The following chart indicates the number of Early Help Assessments initiated by partner agencies. The greatest number of assessments continues to be completed by Primary Schools, with a small increase in the number of assessments from health colleagues which now includes assessments completed by physiotherapists and CAMHS colleagues. Only three Early Help Assessments were completed by third sector organisations and none from adult services. In the main, third sector organisations provide support and interventions to families where an Early Help Assessment has already been completed.



### Early Help Assessment completion 2014-16

The following graph shows the completion of Early Help Assessments 2014 to 2016 inclusive. The number of Early Help Assessments has continued to rise year on year with the same peaks and troughs appearing which in the main are affected by the school academic year. The graphs now show a marked reduction in the completion of Early Help Assessments at Easter, in August and a slight reduction in December. As a service we need to be aware and alert to the unavailability of partner agencies during these periods in the year and consider alternative methods of support where this cannot wait until the start of the new term

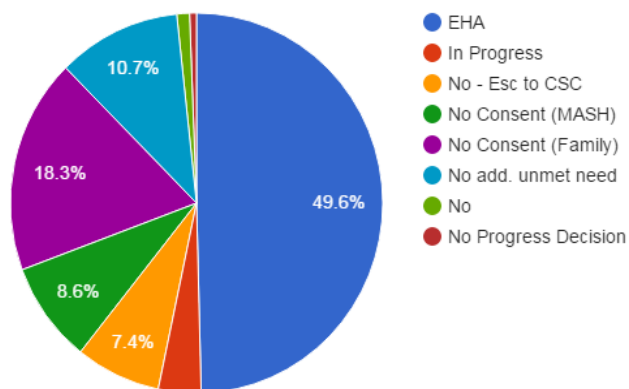
### Graph showing number of Early Help Assessment completed 2014-2016



### Contacts into Children's Social Care with recommended outcome of Early Help

During 2016 there has been a steady increase with 2188 contacts and referrals with a recommended outcome of Early Help. When these cases are picked up by the Early Help Service, our priority is to try and identify a Lead Professional from our partner agencies to work with the family and engage them in the Early Help Assessment process. Negotiating this with potential Lead Professionals can be quite challenging, as can engaging some of our families. The Early Help Service aim to achieve a conversion rate of contact to completed Early

Help Assessment with an agreed family plan of 50% on all contacts passed to the service from Children's Social Care with a recommended outcome of early help. The following pie chart confirms that in 2016, 49.6% with a further 3.7% of assessments in progress takes the total to 53.3% therefore demonstrating the target has been met.



### Involvement and role of Early Help in the neurodevelopmental pathway

Due to high demands for specialist child and adolescent mental health services for ASD / ADHD assessments, waiting lists were temporarily closed in spring 2015. In response to this increasing demand, a new pathway was developed through the Joint Commissioning Unit. The route to access a specialist assessment is now through the Early Help Assessment. The assessment enables access to support, including Evidence Based Parenting Programmes (EBPP). The waiting list reopened on 15<sup>th</sup> December, adopting the new pathways. Transformation funding was allocated to support the purchase of EBPP as well as developing the infrastructure to support the services.

A range of activity has supported the roll out and delivery of the ASD/ADHD pathways to support families whose children are exhibiting challenging behaviours. These have included;

- A series of evidence based parenting programmes were directly commissioned from voluntary sector providers. Practitioners have

been trained to deliver individual programmes and are supporting families on an individual level.

- In Peterborough, a strategy to support schools to directly deliver EBPP has been rolled out. Training was therefore organised for both primary and secondary school, in the delivery of Webster Stratton and Triple P Teens respectively.
- A total of **195 parents** have benefited from the delivery of the Evidence Based Parenting Programmes, directly funded from the transformation funds.
- The EBPP have been developed to provide early support for parents struggling to manage a child's behaviour, enable collection of appropriate information to support referral into more specialist services if required, and to reduce inappropriate referrals.

Evaluation from the EBPP does provide evidence of positive results for parents.

### Workforce Development

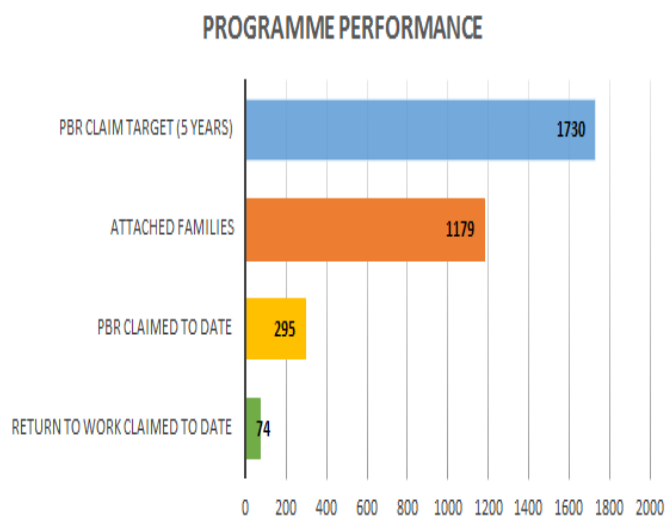
In addition to offering practitioners the opportunity to engage in one of the train the trainer Evidenced Based Parenting Programmes, we have continued to review the effectiveness and volume of other early help training. In addition to the Liquid Logic Early Help Module face to face training we have purchased and are still in the development stage of an eLearning package to enable more practitioners to engage in training with greater flexibility. We are hoping to pilot the eLearning modules with partners in July.

The Early Help Service continue to offer Outcome Star training which remains very popular with greater demand than we have capacity to deliver. We are also hoping later in the year to introduce a new training to accompany the Outcome Star training that will focus specifically on good action planning

Following an analysis of a number of Early Help Assessments that indicated a lack of basic understanding and knowledge in respect of when to complete an Early Help Assessment and what

makes a good Early Help Assessment we have designed a new training programme called 'Back to Basics'. We have delivered one per month since February, as well as four bespoke sessions to individual organisations. Practitioners have reported this to be very helpful both for new practitioners and as a refresher for those working in the field for some time.

### Connecting Families Progress



The national Troubled Families Programme, referred to locally as Connecting Families which is being drive through Early Help is making good progress to date. The total number of families for which a Payment by Result has been claimed is currently 295 - 17.05% of our 5 year target. 74 of these families have been claimed on the basis of an adult achieving continuous employment.

1,179 families have been attached to the programme, consisting of 884 active, qualified families and the 295 families for whom a PbR has already been claimed. The target number of families to be attached by March 2018 is 1,313.

Unsatisfactory school attendance has surpassed worklessness as the leading individual indicator present within the Connecting Families cohort, being present 651 times. The prevalence of

worklessness as an indicator has reduced slightly from 493 to 480.

The Early Help Service have completed an analysis of the claim to help us shape our future provision and delivery and to stand us in good stead for increased numbers of potential claims as the programme progresses.

### New case tracking process

The Early Help Service have conducted a full review of the tracking and monitoring of all Early Help cases that will enable us to demonstrate the impact of Early Help on improving outcomes for children and families. We aim to communicate more regularly with Lead Professionals and intervene earlier when cases are not making the expected progress.

### Emotional Health and Well-being

Over the last year, Peterborough Early Help Service have worked with colleagues from Cambridgeshire County Council, Public Health and CPFT in developing a range of support for practitioners supporting children and young people with emotional health and wellbeing. This has included the production and launch of a public health hosted website called '[Keep Your Head](http://www.keep-your-head.com)'<sup>6</sup> which has information for children and young people, parents and carers as well as professionals pages. This website also plays host to the Kooth online counselling service for 11-25 year olds, and provides access to a new emotional health and wellbeing toolkit for practitioners produced through funding from Health Education England

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.keep-your-head.com/CP-MHS>

## Children at risk of significant harm are effectively identified and protected

Significant harm within this priority means children who are the victims of child abuse. This could be emotional abuse, physical abuse, neglect or sexual abuse (including child sexual exploitation).

### Child Protection Plans

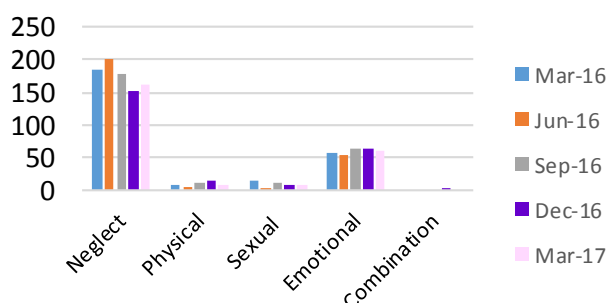
All children at risk of significant harm or abuse will be the subject of a Child Protection Plan. A child protection plan is a working tool that should enable the family and professionals to understand what is expected of them and what they can expect of others. The aims of the plan are:

- To keep the child safe
- To promote their welfare
- To support their wider family to care for them, if it can be done safely.

The table and charts show the number of Peterborough children on a Child Protection Plan.

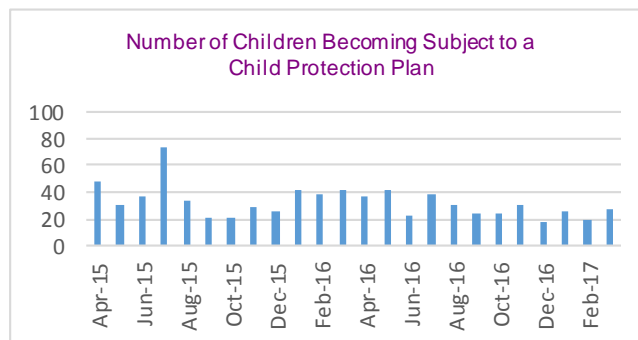
	Mar 16	Jun 16	Sep 16	Dec 16	Mar 17
Child Protection	265	264	262	244	236

Category of Abuse or Neglect Which Triggered a Child Protection Plan



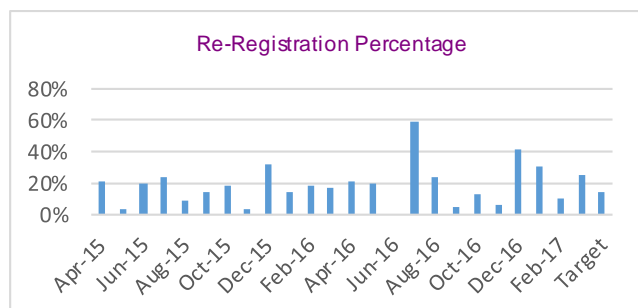
The majority of children and young people who are the subject of Child Protection Plans in Peterborough are registered under the category of Neglect (69%). The Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board has recognised this and accordingly, Neglect will remain as a

business priority for the Board in 2017/18 and further work around the issue of Neglect will take place.



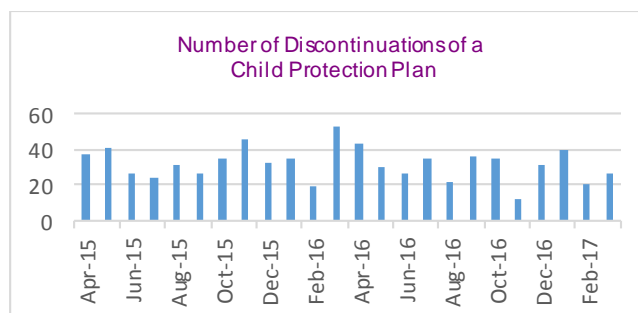
There were 338 children who became subject to a Child Protection Plan during 2016/17. This equates to a rate per 10,000 of 70.8 against the target rate of 53.4.

### The number who became subject to a CP plan for second or subsequent time:



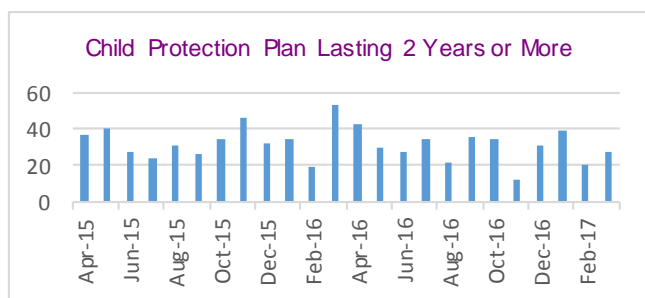
Of the 338 children who became subject to a Child Protection Plan during 2016/17, 76 (22.5%) of them had previously had a Child Protection Plan in Peterborough.

### The number of discontinuations of a Child Protection Plan per 10,000 of the local population under 18:



There were 358 children who ceased to be subject to a Child Protection Plan during 2016/17. This

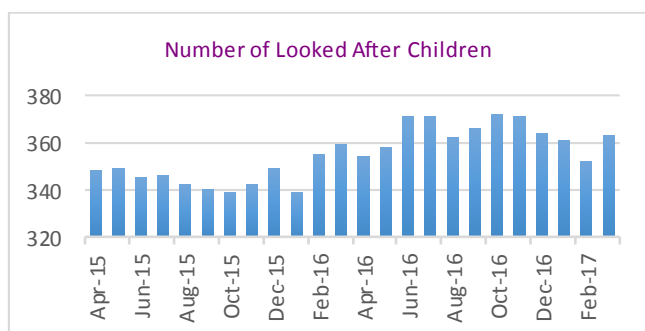
equates to a rate per 10,000 of 75.0 against the target rate of 63.0.



Of the 358 children who ceased to be subject to a Child Protection Plan during 2016/2017, 5 (1.4%) of them had been subject to a Child Protection Plan for more than two years. This is 1.4% against a target rate of 2.5%.

### Looked After Children

The looked after children population in Peterborough has varied between 352 and 372 over the last year, showing a small end of year increase of four in the number of children and young people in care in March 2017, compared with the end of year figure in March 2016. The biggest age band within this population is the 10-15 year olds, which represents over 38% of the total number of looked after children.



During the last year between April 2016 and March 2017, the following arrangements, amongst others, have continued to ensure the identification and protection of children at risk of significant harm:

1. The Peterborough Access to Support Panel (PASP) has continued to oversee the decisions for children to come into care, which are made at Assistant Director level or above. This Panel also reviews all care packages

regularly, especially for those children placed out of area or in independent placements.

2. The Joint Access to Support Panel (JASP), chaired by the Director for Children's Services has continued to determine and review the needs and placements of children with additional needs.
3. Decisions to place children at a distance from the local authority are based on thorough assessments of need and require senior manager approval. They are only made in the most complex cases involving children who need significant additional support. The local authority applies rigorous quality assurance in the procurement and monitoring of independent sector placements.
4. Prior to considering a potential placement, the Access to Resources Team secures local information from the host authority, requires a copy of the home's Local Area Assessment, liaises with the Head of the Virtual School to determine education provision and ensures that where appropriate, parents' views of the provision are taken into account.
5. Complaints are taken seriously and are investigated quickly and sensitively. Themes from complaints are reviewed at quarterly service improvement meetings chaired by the Assistant Director, to enable learning and inform any need for changes in practice or guidance.
6. Children and young people benefit from a high quality advocacy service commissioned through a voluntary organisation. They are actively supported to participate in looked after children reviews, either in person or through a report, so that the children's voices are heard and can be acted upon.
7. Independent visiting services are provided by a voluntary organisation. Currently, 17 looked after children have access to an Independent Visitor (IV). There are 4 young people waiting to be matched with an IV at this current time.

## Developments in 2016-17

1. With support of the Corporate Parenting Committee Chair Cllr Ray Bisby the CIC (Children in Care Council) have co-produced a Z-Card Children in Care Go 2 Guide to be sent to every young person in care aged 8-18 that includes the updated Children in Care Pledge and useful contact information for young people.
2. A Youth Club session for young people 8-13yrs old which held its first session in May with 5 young people attending and lots of interest from young people and carers about future sessions was also launched.
3. In addition to the formal structure of the Children in Care Council a summer activity programme has been developed to encourage participation from a wider range of young people. Last summer (2016) saw engagement from 92 young people, with 308 attendances over 16 sessions.
4. With regard to Care leavers a monthly drop in has been run for the last 12 months with an average attendance of 7 young people per month. Working closely with Rights Resolution, who have secured funding to make the drop in a weekly activity, may support increase attendance.
5. A Post 16 Education Coordinator is now in post and liaises with the NEET team, Leaving Care Service and Local providers to ensure collaborative working to improve outcomes. A Post 16 PEP process will be develop and clarity with social workers where Young People are placed will ensure that education data is accurate on the Local Authority data base.

## Developments for 2017-18

It is recognised by the Local Authority that there remain areas for improvement in certain areas and the following are plans for development in the coming year:

1. The introduction of a Parents Report for Review Conference is to be launched
2. The introduction of a Professionals Feedback Form for Conferences to enable agencies to share their opinions of how they feel the conferences are run and that plans are clear and outcome focussed for the families we work with.
3. Child Protection Conference Participation Leaflets have been devised, aimed at the children and young people, to explain what a Child Protection Conference is in age appropriate language.
4. Regular auditing of actions and whether records can evidence the completion and impact of the action concerned.

### Children Missing from Home and Care

When a child goes missing, it can be a clear sign of problems in their life. Some of the potential reasons children go missing include domestic abuse, neglect, exploitation, mental health issues and substance misuse. Once away from home they are vulnerable to many risks including child sexual exploitation, gang exploitation, becoming involved in crime or becoming a victim of crime.<sup>7</sup> Failing to recognise missing as a serious safeguarding issue can lead to significant gaps in agencies awareness and the effectiveness of their responses. In contrast, early intervention with a missing child can reduce the harm they experience and help them change behaviour before it gets embedded: a sexually exploited 15 year old who frequently goes missing is likely to need significantly more safeguarding

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<sup>7</sup> Missing Children and Adults, A cross government strategy, 2011, the Home Office; Still Running 3, 2011, The Children's Society

interventions and support than a child who goes missing once.

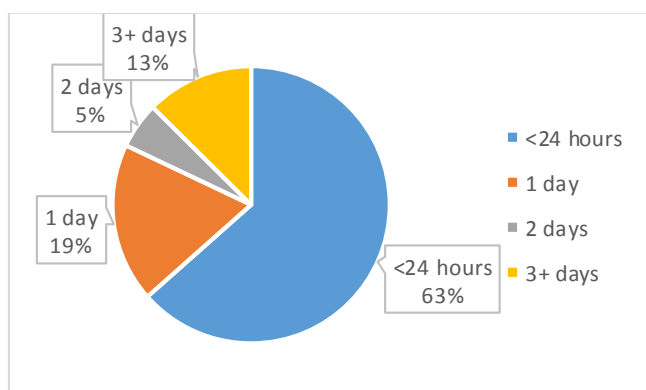
In Peterborough the Local Authority are alerted to missing incidents in the following ways:

- for children living in Peterborough who go missing (either from home or from a care placement), the contact service receive a missing alert from the police
- for Peterborough children in care who are placed outside of the LA boundary, the contact service and often the allocated social worker are alerted by the care provider.

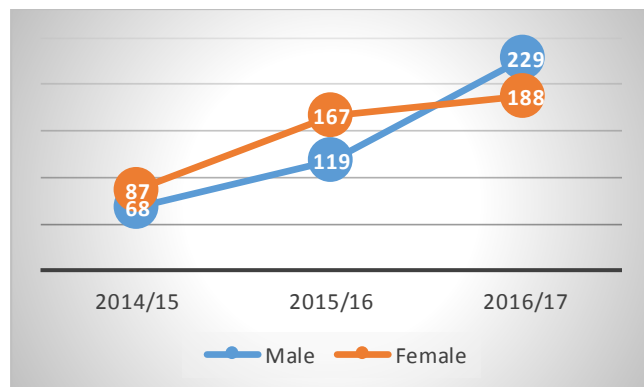
Since July 2015, the police removed the absent category for missing and now consider all those under 18 to be "missing".

During 2016/17 there have been a total of 417 children and young people under 18 who had gone missing on 613 separate occasions. This number has increased from 286 children and young people having gone missing on 466 separate occasions during 2015/16. This means that there were 147 more episodes of missing involving 131 more children than the previous financial year.

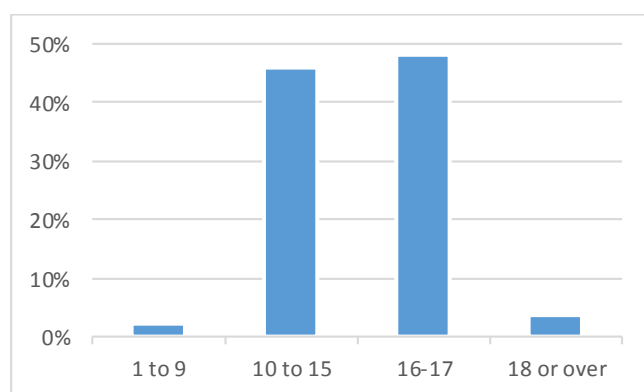
Out of 613 missing incidents, 63% were reported missing and found on the same day.



Of the 417 individual children who went missing during 2016/17, we can see that 55% were male and 45% were female. Previous year's data suggests that missing incidents are higher amongst females.



The age split shows that 48% of individuals who went missing were from the 16-17 year group with 45% from the 10-15 age group.



In terms of ethnicity, it is clear to see that the majority of children going missing are from a white British background (63%), 12% are white European, 10% Asian and 8% Mixed.

### Private Fostering



A private fostering arrangement is one that is made privately (without the involvement of a local authority) for the care of a child under the age of 16 years (under 18 if disabled) by someone other than a parent or close relative of the child, in their own home, with the intention that it should last for 28 days or more. It should not be confused with fostering placements provided by Independent Fostering Agencies run by private companies.

A private foster carer may be a friend of the family or the child's friend's parents. However, a private foster carer is sometimes someone who is not previously known to the family, but who is willing to foster the child privately.

Examples of private fostering arrangements are:

- Children sent from abroad to stay with another family, usually to improve their English or for educational opportunities.
- Asylum seeking and refugee children.
- Teenagers who, having broken ties with their parents, are staying in short-term arrangements with friends or other non-relatives.
- Children living with host families, arranged by language schools or other organisations.
- Children living with members of the extended family, e.g. Great aunt.

The Children Act 1989 requires parents and private foster carers to give the Local Authority advance notice of a private fostering arrangement. It also places specific duties on local authorities with responsibilities for children's services. The legislation made what was considered a private arrangement into a public matter by giving Local Authorities a role in ensuring that children are safeguarded.

The Board's role in Private Fostering is to have an overview of the numbers of cases being notified and that those cases are being dealt with within the guidance.

To ensure that the Board is fully aware of Private Fostering arrangements within the city, the Board receives regular updates reports from Children's Social Care as to numbers etc. In addition, the Board has played a role in ensuring that agencies are aware of Private Fostering and the implications for practice.

There were six private fostering notifications received during the period of this report, two down on the previous year.

The low numbers of notified cases could be a concern and therefore, the Peterborough

Safeguarding Children Board takes the role of ensuring that all partners are aware of what Private Fostering is and their responsibility to notify the Local Authority when they become aware of this sort of arrangement.

### **Allegations Management**

*"Working Together To Safeguard Children – a guide to inter agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children 2006"* introduced the concept of the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) who has the responsibility to have oversight of all allegations against a professional who volunteers or works with children or young people. This was updated in 2015 where it stipulates that Local Authorities must have in place a 'Designated Officer' to handle all allegations against adults who work with children and young people.

Although this practice must continue, the guidance no longer refers to them as LADOs only 'Designated Officers' or teams. However through participation at regional and national LADO meetings it has become clear that there has been some confusion with the new term 'Designated Officer' and therefore, most authorities continue to refer to the role as the LADO.

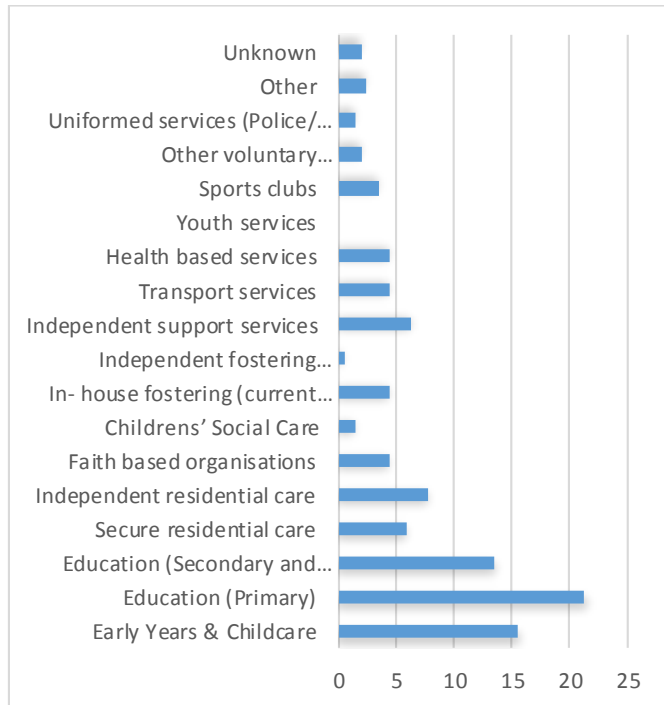
The LADO is responsible for:-

- Providing information, advice and guidance to employers and voluntary organisations regarding allegations management and concerns relating to paid and unpaid workers.
- Managing and overseeing individual cases from all partner agencies.
- Ensuring the child's view is heard and they/other children are safeguarded.
- Ensuring there is a consistent and thorough process for all adults working with children against whom an allegation is made.
- Monitoring the progress of cases to ensure they are dealt with as quickly as possible.
- Recommending when full referrals are needed and arranging and chairing complex strategy meetings where the allegation requires investigation by police and/or social



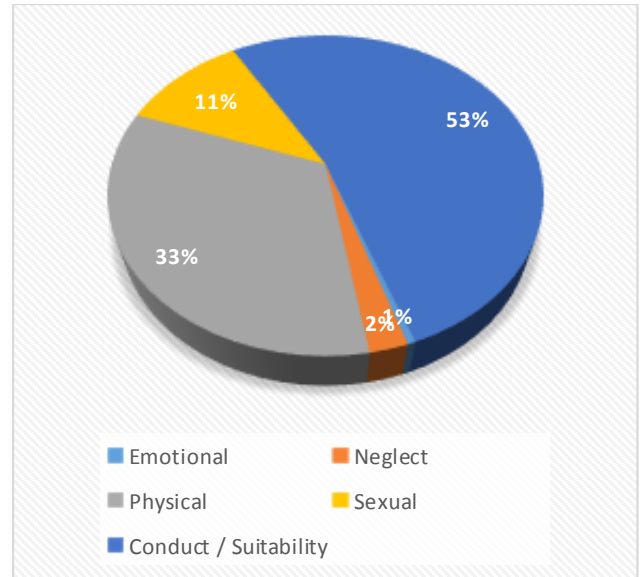
care.

The level of referrals has continued to rise during this year with an 11% increase in referrals compared to last year. This has been the pattern year on year since 2013. However, the number of referrals that required a Complex Strategy Meeting (CSM) has remained broadly consistent within the past three years which shows that thresholds are being applied consistently.

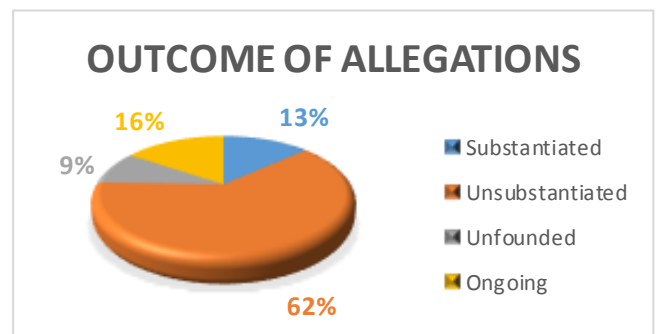


There have been three high profile cases in the last year which have received local and national media interest. Such cases increase the amount of LADO work on each case due to the increased level of communication needed and additional meetings required to manage the allegations and impact on local communities. This is hard to capture in statistics.

The chart below shows the Primary Category of Abuse in relation to allegations received in the period of this report.



Where an allegation has been made that a person who works or volunteers with children has harmed their **own** child, or been involved in an offence outside of the workplace and this may affect their suitability to work with children, this has been recorded as a conduct or suitability issue.



There have been a significant drop in the number of allegations that could be substantiated. There are no definitive reasons apparent for this, it is highly dependent upon the level and quality of evidence available. All disclosures by children are taken very seriously by the LADO and Police and must be thoroughly investigated. When an allegation cannot be substantiated, the employer then has to carry out an internal investigation.

During this year there were no 'false' or 'deliberately invented or malicious' allegations.

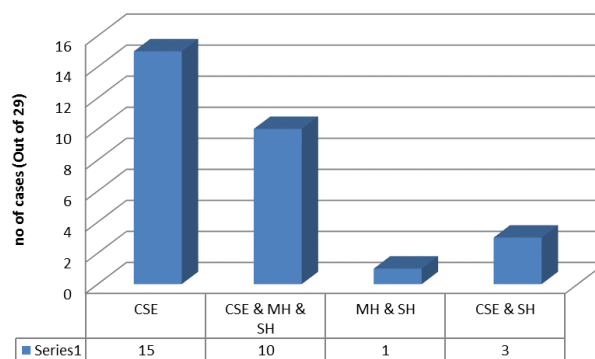
## The use of restraint in Secure Settings

Clare Lodge is a 16 bed all female, all welfare unit. Since 1 October 2016 there have been 12 discharges and 12 admissions. Most of these young people were from different local authorities. The trend on referrals for complex young people with mental health needs and experience of child sexual exploitation with the added dimension of aggression and violence. Of the group nine were from the South, thirteen were from the North, one from Wales and one from the East Anglia region. Three were from the same local authority. One was a readmission. One of the discharges went to a Tier 4 mental health bed; one went to another secure unit in Scotland after we gave notice. One young person went home. The majority of the other young people left to open children's homes.

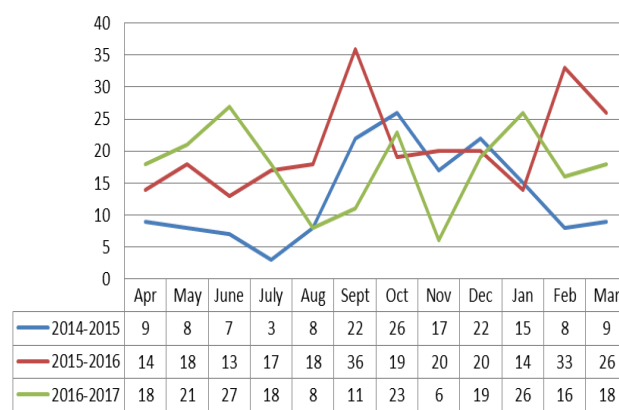
The difficulty with local authority sourcing placements continues especially for the most complex and challenging of young people. We are finding that the quality of transitions depends on the individual Local authorities. Of those discharged the average length of stay was 181 days this was an increase on the previous six months which was 159 days. Average age has risen to 15 from 14.

See below graphs for presenting issues and levels of physical intervention. We continue to have high numbers of girls who experience child sexual exploitation this leads to a number of trauma related complexities. Physical interventions have peaked at times for the particular young person. Other than this physical intervention figures have been fairly consistent. Many staff have received refreshers in safeguarding training. There is now better communication between the secure unit and the LADO with arranged visits on a quarterly basis.

Presenting issues



Pi's



## Everyone makes a significant and meaningful contribution to safeguarding children

*Legislation states that everyone has a role to play in safeguarding children. Part of the role of the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board is to ensure that all agencies (including Police, Children's Social Care, Education, Probation, Youth Offending Service, Health and the Voluntary Sector) are properly completing their role in safeguarding. We do this through case reviews, audits, training and listening to children, young people, carers and professionals. Where we consider that an agency could improve their safeguarding activities the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board holds the agency to account.*

This priority is primarily measured via the indicators within the PSCB dataset. As mentioned previously in the report the dataset has been

strengthened over the past year but further work is ongoing to further refine the data.

Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 imposes a statutory duty on partner agencies to safeguard children and young people. The Board scrutinises agencies compliance with this duty by undertaking a S11 audit. These audits are carried out every two years. The last Section 11 audit was completed in 2015/16 and the next S11 will commence in May 2017. Findings from this audit will be shared in the 2017/18 Annual Report.

As previously mentioned, attendance at meetings of Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board by all of the wide range of agencies is good and all members have made contributions towards the campaigns run in the last year. In addition, those agencies who support the Learning and Development Programme by delivering multi-agency training include:

- Police
- Children's Social Care
- Health
- The voluntary sector

### **Workforce has the right skills / knowledge and capacity to safeguard children**

*'Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) should use data and, as a minimum monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of training, including multi-agency training to safeguard and promote the welfare of children'. Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015*

During April 2016 and March 2017 the PSCB offered over 40 different safeguarding courses (14 of which form the core programme) with 90 individual training sessions being offered, this does not include the Annual Conference, training undertaken by the Exploitation Coordinator to groups of young people or the training undertaken with the Mosques and Madrassahs.

The courses varied in both subject field and course level but all courses were delivered to a

multi-agency audience. The subjects discussed during the 12 months included:-

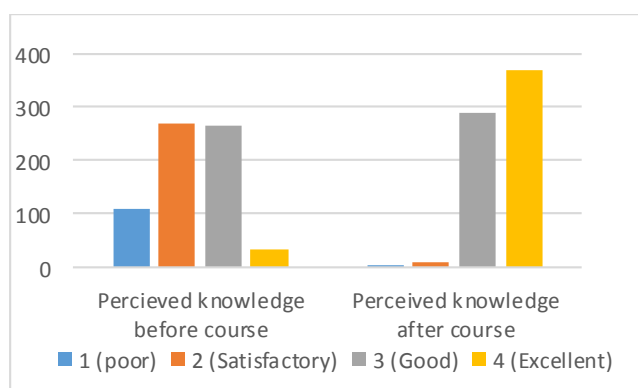
- Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)
- Neglect (including specific training on neglect assessment tools)
- Gang exploitation and safeguarding
- Domestic Abuse
- Honour Based Violence
- Children displaying sexually harmful behaviour

Although 90 sessions were offered only 76 training sessions went ahead. The majority of course cancellations were due to either trainer sickness/annual leave or low enrolment figures.

914 training course places were allocated to delegates and of these 867 delegates attended. This equates to a 5% non-attendance rate. This is 1% higher than last year but considerably lower than previous years (2013/14).

Out of the 867 delegates, 42% were from the local authority, 17% from various health organisations, 16% from Education and 12% were from the voluntary sector. Attendance from Probation and Police continues to be substantially lower than other agencies and can partially be explained by these agencies accessing training through the Cambridgeshire Local Safeguarding Children Board.

Out of 867 delegates, 85% completed evaluation forms which found their knowledge of the subject had increased substantially.



It is clearly evidenced that delegates felt that the training they have attended was both relevant to

their day to day role and their knowledge had sufficiently increased on completion of the course. It is also important to highlight that training attendance had a positive impact in terms of confidence growth when dealing with safeguarding issues.

The Annual Conference was also a success and had good attendance levels from a multi-agency audience across the County. The evaluation forms evidence that delegates felt the conference increased their knowledge of risk taking behaviour in adolescents and neglect.

Further details can be found in the PSCB Training Annual Report which can be found on our website [www.safeguardingpeterborough.org.uk](http://www.safeguardingpeterborough.org.uk)

### **Understand the needs of all sectors of our community**

*Peterborough is a multi-cultural City with lots of different communities. It is very important that the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board understands the cultural and religious beliefs of all sectors of its communities and how they may impact on safeguarding issues.*

The Peterborough City Council Community Cohesion team has played a central role in developing the safeguarding programme in partnership the PSCB and the local Muslim community, Muslim Council of Peterborough (MCP).

The Board worked in partnership with the MCP and community cohesion team to develop and produce safeguarding guidance and policies that were tailored to the needs of the community.

The PSCB developed a train the trainer safeguarding programme which was delivered to the community by the PSCB in conjunction with the Education Safeguarding Lead and the LADO.

Through this Safeguarding programme, the Muslim Council of Peterborough has been empowered to deliver an Introduction to Safeguarding Children and Young People safeguarding course to Mosque madrassa

employees and volunteers, Non-Mosque Madrassa employees and volunteers and 5 Eastern European Complimentary School staff members. To date 173 people have been trained.

The Norfolk Safeguarding Children Board have visited Peterborough to view the MCP Safeguarding Policies, they have been visibly impressed and have shown an interest in replicating the work in Norfolk.

Through the sustained efforts of the Community Cohesion team, the Muslim Community have understood the need for safeguarding within their communities. The mosque members have recognised its importance and have set it as a priority for their organisation.

Mosque members affiliated to the Muslim Council of Peterborough are taking a keen interest in the training sessions and new updates.

The non-mosque madrassas which have previously been very hard to reach are now opening up and engaging with the safeguarding work.

The Eastern European communities have been accessed through the MCP Safeguarding work, they too are keen to further work to update their organisations. It is hoped that this work will be progressed over the next year.

In addition to the above, in March 2017 the Board held a safeguarding awareness month. Members of the Business Unit manned stalls in a number of public areas (including shopping centres, hospital foyers) to promote information about safeguarding and neglect. Leaflets were disseminated to members of the public and it was an opportunity for people to ask questions or raise concerns

### **Children are fully protected from the effects of neglect**

The Board developed and launched a neglect strategy in September 2016 to coincide with the launch of the threshold document. To assure the Board that the strategy had been appropriately

embedded into practice a multi agency audit was scheduled to take place in May 2017.

In the interim period the Board scrutinised performance through the dataset and escalations. The PSCB has worked with public health to strengthen the PSCB dataset to include information about lowbirth weight, immunisations, obesity, repeat accidental injuries. Whilst this data is in place work is taking place to further refine the data and make it more meaningful.

In May 2017 the Board will undertake a neglect audit to check compliance with the neglect strategy across agencies.

In addition to the neglect audit the PSCB will use the S11 audit as a further opportunity to monitor and scrutinise practice around neglect.

The Board offers basic and intermediate training on neglect. This is regularly accessed by practitioners from all agencies. In addition training is available on:

- Quality of Care tool
- Completing the Quality of Care Tool
- Outcome Star
- Early help
- Supporting vulnerable children and families in the early years.

In March 2017 the Board hosted a conference (Adolescent perception of risk: Understanding and preventing high risk behaviour). 110 people attended the conference from a range of agencies. A key note speaker gave a presentation about mental health and neglect and there was a specific workshop “Thrive to survive” that looked at issues of neglect in adolescents.

In addition to the training the PSCB has developed a neglect resource pack for practitioners. This contains PowerPoint presentations, leaflets, guidance and additional information on neglect. The resource has been shared with agencies and is available on the PSCB website

## Children are fully protected from Child Sexual Exploitation

Throughout 2016-17, the Board has continued its proactive response to CSE through continued awareness raising and extensive partnership working.

Since April 2016, Peterborough Safeguarding Boards has delivered a significant amount of multi-agency and single agency training, including: four half-day sessions on child sexual exploitation to multi-agency professionals, one half-day session specifically for foster carers, newly-qualified social workers and family support workers and three separate bespoke sessions for youth work staff, first response Social Workers and education settings across Cambridgeshire. These workshops were tailored to the audience to ensure relevant materials and messages were shared. Most recently, a workshop was offered as part of the Safeguarding Board’s annual conference titled ‘CSE in 2017’, which aimed to consider the perception of CSE and how this might have changed since the first reports and court cases on the topic surfaced around 2009. This workshop was both well attended and well received.

A significant area of activity at the beginning of the period was community awareness raising on child sexual exploitation focussed on hotels in the city, evidenced by local information gained under Operation Makesafe. Extensive contact was made with hotels across the city and six sessions of bespoke training were delivered to five different hotels in partnership with Constabulary staff from the Safer Peterborough Partnership. This activity was linked into regional activity which saw the delivery of test purchasing in hotels across the Cambridgeshire area. In addition, Licensing Officers delivered CSE messages during a week of action in May 2016 using materials produced by the Safeguarding Board. Operation Makesafe continues to consider this area of awareness raising and partnership building across the night-

time economy a priority, and activity will continue in 2017-18.

In 2015-16, the Board recognised that boys are under reported as potential victims of CSE nationally and so offered specific workshops to raise awareness of the warning signs for boys and young men. This year, this work was developed to reach a wider audience than that which might be able to access face to face training, by launching a resource pack focussed on the topic of boys and young men as potential victims of CSE. This pack includes links to videos for professionals with associated training materials, case studies and worksheets and materials for use in working with children and young people, including those from the LGBTQ community. These resource packs were launched on National CSE Awareness Day free of charge to professionals across the city.

In addition, a similar resource pack was launched on the same day which covered the topic of child sexual exploitation and learning disabilities. Significant specialist support and advice was provided in the development of this pack by the Counselling Psychologist in the Youth Offending Team. This pack also contained research, training materials and worksheets for use with young people. The aim of both packs is to empower professionals to introduce potentially difficult conversations with young people they are concerned about and raise their awareness of potentially dangerous or harmful relationships and situations. Both packs will be updated as new material becomes available. An update of the main resource pack to include worksheets and other materials is underway following the release of the updated definition of CSE by the Department for Education.

In June 2016, a report was published by the Board into the city's multi-agency response to child sexual exploitation by independent author Ceryl Davies. The report is a positive reflection of the proactive response by agencies to the issue and a number of recommendations were made which were placed into an Action Plan, monitored by the

Safeguarding Board's Serious Case Review sub-group. To date all of the actions within the Action Plan have either been achieved or marked as ongoing: for example continued intelligence gathering from partner agencies to support Operation Makesafe.

Two specific actions within this Action plan were an audit into the use of the Joint Child Sexual Exploitation Risk Management Tool and a dip sample exercise looking at return interviews (completed when children and young people go missing from home or care).

Both of these exercises were completed by the Sexual Exploitation Co-ordinator.

In September 2016 the powerful play 'Chelsea's Choice' returned to Peterborough's secondary schools, commissioned by the Board. 11 secondary schools in the city received performances which were delivered to children in years 8 or 9, depending on the school. Two of the city's special schools also agreed to performances for their students. In total the play was seen by around 1800 students, and all of the schools expressed positive feedback about the impact the play had had on their students and the work they had completed afterwards.

In addition to the school based performances, the Board also commissioned an evening performance for members of the local community including parents and carers. This performance was attended by over 80 people and again, received excellent feedback.

Finally, this year has seen the development of partnership information sharing and intelligence gathering through the following activities:

The development of an Information Sharing protocol between Cambridgeshire Constabulary, PSCB, Cambridgeshire Local Safeguarding Board, Lincolnshire Constabulary and Lincolnshire Local Safeguarding Children Board.

The development of links between Rutland Safeguarding Children Board and PSCB

Continued support from PSCB to the Police led Operation Makesafe, and the associated information sharing and governance, and finally continued support and challenge to the local Peterborough based Operational Group which considers those children at the highest risk of going missing or at risk of harm from child sexual exploitation.

Planned activity for the next year will include: cross-county updates to the joint CSE Risk Management Tool following changes in Cambridgeshire affecting the consideration of children at risk of child sexual exploitation, updated to the CSE Strategy and Action Plan, continued awareness raising with the night time economy and alignment of training on Child Sexual Exploitation and children who go missing across Peterborough and Cambridgeshire.

## The Voice of Children, Young People and Families

The Board and their partners are very aware of the need to engage with families, children and young people in a meaningful way to understand and act on their views and concerns.

The PSCB has worked hard to capture the views and opinions of young people across the City and ensure that they are used to improve agencies practice. Over the last 12 months the Board has undertaken 3 surveys with young people across the City and had an overwhelming response. Whilst none of the surveys were explicitly around the subject of neglect they all involved subject areas that research indicates are intrinsically linked to those children who are the subject of neglect.

In February – April 2016 the Board ran a survey on Domestic abuse and sexual violence (healthy relationships). We produced two surveys, one aimed at school years 4-7 and one aimed at school 8-11. Questions included what makes a health relationship, what things are ok/ not ok in a relationship, who they would talk to if they had a concern in a relationship. There were also specific

questions around whether they had seen/heard violence at home, the frequency with which it occurred and who they would talk to about it. We received a total of 1946 responses from across the City which provided the Board with a good insight into the lives of young people across the City. The findings from the survey have been used to inform the work of the DA/SV strategic Board. The findings have also been used by the Safer Peterborough Partnership (CSP) to their work around DA and were also used to inform the Countywide JSNA on VAWG.

In February/March 2017 the PSCB undertook a survey around “gangs” with secondary school students across the City. The questions included their perception of gangs, had they been a member of a gang, names of local gangs. We received 669 responses to the survey and the results were used to inform the PSCB Gang workshops that are currently being delivered across the County. The work has also been shared with the Safer Peterborough Partnership (CSP) to help inform their work around Gang related activity.

The Board undertook a further survey in November 2016 -March 2017. This survey examined the issues of e safety, sexting and on line bullying.

The survey was issued to all schools across the city to ascertain the views and experiences of children and young people with regards to their online safety. Two surveys were developed, one aimed at 7-10 year olds and the other aimed at 11-16 year olds. In total, there were over **2,011** responses from **49** schools across Peterborough which were completed anonymously.

The findings from the survey included;

- 64% of 7 to 10 year olds and 87% of 11 to 17 year olds has a social networking profile with the most popular sites being Snapchat, WhatsApp, Facebook and Instagram.
- 79% of 7 to 10 year olds and 68% of 11 to 17 year olds play games online. The most

popular games included Minecraft, Call of Duty, Grand Theft Auto, Pokémon and ROBLOX.

- 23% of 7 to 10 year olds and 26% of 11 to 17 year olds have met with someone they only knew online.
- 28% of 7 to 10 year olds and 48% of 11 to 17 year olds do not always follow online safety advice they have been given.
- 56% of 7 to 10 year olds and 25% of 11 to 17 year olds do not use privacy settings on their social networking accounts
- 4% of 10 to 17 year olds have shared inappropriate images of themselves.

There needs to be an emphasis to children and young people that not everyone online may be who they appear to be, and children and young people who use social networking sites should be reminded about the importance of setting privacy settings and to only make friends with people they know and trust and to remind them of online stranger danger.

Despite the low number of young people admitting to sharing intimate or inappropriate images, young people need to be aware of the possible dangers by sending these images both to themselves now and in the future.

The learning from the survey has been used to shape the work plan of the E safety sub group. The findings have also been shared with schools across the City, governors, and parents. The Internet Watch Foundation have also used the findings as part of their research information.

## Scrutiny and Challenge

Section 14 of the Children Act 2004 sets out the objectives of LSCBs, which are:

- a) to coordinate what is done by each person or body represented on the Board for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area; and

- b) to ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for those purposes.

### Scrutiny

In the period covered by this report, the Board has provided scrutiny to agencies through reports and discussion at the bi-monthly Board meetings on the following issues:

- LADO Annual Report
- Parental Consultation around the Child Protection Conference Process Feedback Report
- Analysis of Multi-agency Attendance at Child Protection Conferences Report
- Children in Need Update
- Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children
- Safeguarding Children Quarterly Reports
- Police Problem Profile – Child Sexual Exploitation in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough
- Elective Home Education
- Clare Lodge Performance Quarterly Performance Report
- Annual Report 2015-16 (CDOP)

### Challenge

As well as evaluating and analysing operational issue within Board meetings, the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board has also been active in the last year, challenging practice through individual case escalation. This can result in the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board facilitating meetings around practice or speaking directly to senior managers about the issue. The Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board does not keep a record of every concern or challenge that it has participated in but it does keep a 'Challenge Log' of examples of concerns or challenges it has been involved in.

The log evidences that, within the 12 months of this report, the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board (through either the Chair or Board Manager) has facilitated inter-agency meetings involving challenges to practice. In addition there has also been cases where the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board Manager has raised



escalation concerns directly with the appropriate Board Member regarding frontline practice.

The challenge log demonstrates that the Board has a good oversight of practice across agencies.

## Conclusion

The Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board continues to be a strong partnership which has worked well together to coordinate activity and hold partner agencies to account for their activity to provide the best outcomes for children and young people in the city. The good work the Board has completed in the last year can be seen in the strengthening of its engagement with young people. The aim has been to gain knowledge of their wishes, feelings and opinions, ensuring that the work of the Board is relevant and informed by the voices of local children. This work has been greatly supported by better relationships with the schools, secondary and primary, via the Education Safeguarding Lead who has contributed directly to ensuring the profile of the Board has been raised amongst children and young people in the city.

The Board offered a good, proactive response to neglect and e safety, including some excellent community engagement work. This work is ongoing and it is the aim that community engagement work with a range of safeguarding activities and awareness raising more generally, will benefit from the lessons learnt and good practice demonstrated in the Board's response to CSE.

Work with the faith communities in Peterborough has continued to be a particular area of good practice in the last year. The Muslim Council of Peterborough, via the Communities and Cohesion Manager for Peterborough City Council and again the Education Safeguarding Lead have supported some excellent awareness raising and engagement work.

Lastly, there has been some excellent partnership work across the county of Cambridgeshire this year through joint work with Cambridgeshire Local

Safeguarding Board and it is the aim that this work will not only continue but develop further to strengthen this partnership through 2017/18.

## The Boards' Business Priorities 2017-18

It was agreed by the group to retain the priorities in place in 2016/17 for an additional year. These are:

- Early help and preventative measures are effective.
- Children at risk of significant harm are effectively identified and protected.
- Everyone makes a significant and meaningful contribution to safeguarding children.
- Workforce has the right skills/knowledge and capacity to safeguard children.
- Understand the needs of all sectors of our community.
- Children are fully protected from the effects of neglect.
- Children are fully protected from Child Sexual Exploitation.

## Future developments

- Strengthening the multi-agency dataset to reflect safeguarding activity across the city and to provide the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board with a clear picture of agencies' performance,
- Development of audit activity across the county, as well as across the children's and adult's safeguarding workforce.
- Scrutiny of the implementation of the neglect strategy
- Continued activity to ensure neglect continues to be a priority for safeguarding agencies.
- Increased engagement with front line practitioners.
- Closer working with Cambridgeshire LSCB



This report has been compiled on behalf of the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board by the Peterborough Safeguarding Boards (Adult and Children) Business Unit.

The content is drawn from the work of the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board and its sub-groups including; reports presented to those groups; records of meetings; multi-agency audit findings and the findings from Serious Case Reviews.

The report will be published in July 2017 and will be a public document and available from the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board website.

In line with statutory requirements and best practice, the Annual Report 2016/17 has been sent to the following:

- Peterborough City Council Chief Executive
- Leader of the Council
- Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Police and Crime Commissioner
- Chair of the Peterborough Health and Wellbeing Board



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